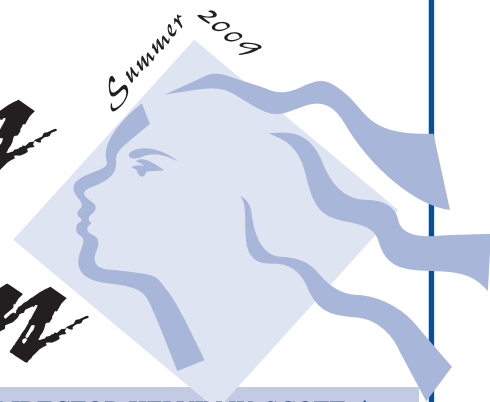


Michigan Women

A Publication of the Michigan Women's Commission

Summer 2009



◆ GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM ◆ DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR KELVIN W. SCOTT ◆
◆ CHAIR EMMA BELL ◆ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JUDY KARANDJEFF ◆

Prevention First

The Prevention First package of legislation was introduced by numerous Michigan House and Senate members on

Tuesday, June 23, at a press conference, and supported by the American Civil Liberties Union, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists,

Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Michigan Women's Commission, National Organization for Women, Planned

Parenthood Advocates, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, and other organizations.

The package will protect women's health, reduce unintended pregnancies, help prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections and save scarce public health dollars. The Prevention First legislation addresses the following principles:

- Give women affordable access to birth control;
- Promote honest, medically accurate, abstinence-plus sex education;



(Left to right, first row) Representative Rebekah Warren, Senator Gilda Jacobs, Representatives Pam Byrnes, Sarah Roberts, Lisa Brown, Richard Hammel, Rashida Tlaib with representatives from groups at press conference. Photo provided by Senate Democratic Communications Office.

(continued on page 2)

COMMISSIONERS:

Emma Bell, Chair – Detroit • Gloria Woods, Vice Chair – Bay City • Rana Abbas – Dearborn • Donna Budnick – Harbor Springs
• Pam Faris – Clio • Emily Furrow – Grand Rapids • Patricia Lowrie – Okemos • Alexandra Matish – Ann Arbor
• Sheryl Mitchell – West Bloomfield • Judy Rosenberg – Birmingham • Sally Shaheen Joseph – Flint • Estelle P. Smyth – Escanaba
• Ronda Stryker – Portage • Mary Alice Williams – Grand Rapids • Tom Wilson – Wyandotte

EX OFFICIO:

Diane Earls – Civil Service • Norene Lind – Energy, Labor & Economic Growth
• Roberta Stanley – Education • Jocelyn Vanda – Human Services

LIAISONS:

Cindy Albrecht – Office of Services to the Aging • Sophie Baker – Civil Rights • Maxine Berman – Governor's Office
• Patty Cantu – Education • Alethia Carr – Community Health • Donna Donovan – Treasury • Beth Emmitt – State
• Jenifer Esch – Attorney General • Lt. Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue – State Police • Cynthia Grubbs – MI Economic Development Corporation
• Elise Lancaster – Management and Budget • Robin Rosenbaum – Agriculture • Sharon Schafer – Natural Resources
• Jackie Shinn – Transportation • Lt. Tina Straw/Sonya Butler – Environmental Quality • Heidi Washington – Corrections

STAFF:

Judy Karandjeff, Executive Director • Elizabeth Thompson, Program Specialist • Sara Fisher, Intern • Meghan L. Fortune, Volunteer

Prevention First ...

continued from page 1

- Guarantee that women who survive rape or sexual assault are offered information about, and access to, emergency contraception;
- Ensure insurance coverage for birth control;
- Expand family planning services;
- Ensure that pharmacists fill birth-control prescriptions, and
- Support teen pregnancy prevention efforts.

The following bills were introduced and assigned to various committees in the House and Senate:

1) Contraceptive Equity – (SB 64, SB 658, HB 5156, HB 5157) - requires health plans that cover other drug and services to provide full coverage for all contraceptive drugs and services. 24 states have passed similar legislation.

2) Emergency Contraception (EC) in the Emergency Room – (SB 666, HB 5155) - requires all health facilities or agencies that provide emergency or urgent care to promptly offer emergency contraception (EC) to survivors of sexual assault.

3) Emergency Contraceptive (EC) Education – (SB 664, HB 5165) - requires that the Department of Community Health develop and disseminate information about emergency contraception (EC). This information would be required to include, at a minimum, a description of emergency contraceptives, and an explanation of the use, safety, efficacy, and availability of emergency contraceptives.

4) Comprehensive Sex Education – (SB 666, HB 5163) - requires that age-appropriate, medically accurate, including abstinence and birth control, and objective sexuality education be taught in public schools.

5) Pap Smear Coverage – (SB 661, SB 662, HB 5161, HB 5162) - requires insurance coverage to include annual Pap smear screening for cervical cancer. 28 states have enacted similar legislation.

6) Infertility Treatment Coverage – (SB 659, SB 660, HB 5159, HB 5160) - requires insurance coverage for infertility treatments if pregnancy-related benefits are provided. 15 states have passed similar legislation.

7) Duty to Dispense – (SB 667, HB 5164) - requires pharmacists to fill all Federal Drug Administration approved prescriptions without bias or delay.

8) Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC) Regulation – (SB 668, HB 5158) - requires CPCs to obtain informed consent from the women they serve and to notify women that they do not provide information on how to obtain an abortion, abortion services, or birth control information.

9) Prevention First Resolution – (HR 120) - memorializes the Congress of the United States to enact the Prevention First Act in order to increase access to birth control, prevent unintended pregnancies and reduce the need for abortions.

10) Health Care Reform Resolution - (HR 118) - expresses that women's health concerns, including comprehensive reproductive health services over the continuum of women's lives, should be a part of any health care reform package.

11) Women's Health Resolution - (HCR 23) - promotes programs to identify and address inequities in the prevention, treatment and research of diseases threatening the health of women.

12) Teen Pregnancy Prevention Resolution – (HR 119) - expresses that the state of Michigan should intensify efforts to reduce the high rates of teen pregnancies.

Federal Stimulus Money in Michigan

Michigan has online information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) - our nation's aggressive new economic recovery plan designed to jumpstart our economy, create jobs, and help Americans struggling to provide for their families.



The economic recovery package is a one-time opportunity to rebuild Michigan's economy and put Michigan citizens back to work. Governor Granholm has identified five key priorities for spending Michigan's share of the economic recovery dollars.

Michigan will:

- Create new jobs and jumpstart Michigan's economy;
- Train Michigan workers and educate Michigan students for the good jobs here today, and the new jobs we create tomorrow;

- Rebuild Michigan infrastructure — roads, bridges, water and sewer systems, mass transit, broadband, health information technology, and schools;
- Provide assistance for struggling Michigan families, helping them make ends to meet;
- Invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies to create jobs, save money, and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

On the state's website, you will learn how the recovery plan will help create jobs and relieve the stress on your pocketbook. You will find information on the programs and projects that will receive funding, and the process that will be used to distribute that funding to communities and organizations around Michigan. Michigan citizens will know we are investing our recovery dollars wisely and responsibly. For more information go to www.michigan.gov/recovery.

Commission News

At its June 10 meeting, the Michigan Women's Commission voted to file three complaints against the Lansing School District, the Capital Area Activities Conference and the Michigan High School Athletic Association with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. The commission is concerned that the parties have discriminated against the citizens of Michigan in their full utilization of services, activities and programs provided by the parties by allowing the scheduling of girls basketball games in a time slot that is discriminatory when compared to the time now allotted for boys basketball. The commission based its complaint on the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. The complaints will be investigated by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

In December 2001, the US District Court for the Western District of Michigan, Southern Division ruled in the case of *Communities for Equity, et al., Plaintiffs v Michigan High School Athletic Association* that the athletic association's current scheduling of high school girls sports in Michigan violated the Equal Protection Clause, Title IX, and Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. The court enjoined the athletic association from continuing its current scheduling of interscholastic athletics seasons in Michigan.

MWC was notified that former Commissioner **Helen Mataya Graves, PhD**, professor of political science and a former member of the Michigan Women's Commission died in Providence, Rhode Island in April 2009.

Buy Michigan First was initiated by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to encourage Michigan businesses, including under-represented vendor groups, to register as vendors and bid on more than 1,100 contracts valued at over \$19 billion.

The purpose of Buy Michigan First is to increase awareness on how to do business with the state, increase the number of Michigan businesses registering as vendors and bidding on contracts, and to increase the awareness of resources available to small businesses. The end goal is to create jobs, diversify our economy, and drive down the cost of government.

As part of the Buy Michigan First initiative, the Michigan Department of Management and Budget (DMB) offers free seminars to guide business owners in bidding and obtaining contracts with the state. These seminars provide business owners an overview of the Michigan procurement process for commodities, services, information technology, design and construction, and real estate leasing. DMB holds a second seminar to prepare businesses to create a quality proposal.

There are two types of seminars to prepare a business owner to become a vendor including:

Contracting 101

These seminars provide general information to guide business owners in bidding and obtaining contracts with the state.

Elements of a Quality Proposal

This seminar is best for those who have already participated in a "Contracting 101" session. It provides a more detailed presentation to help a



prospective vendor understand purchasing language and understand the things that should be in a quality proposal. Information is also provided on common mistakes that vendors make when they submit bids to the State.

Outreach efforts have reached thousands of Michigan businesses throughout the state from the U.P. to Lenawee County and from Southeast Michigan to Southwest Michigan. Some seminars are held in partnership with the Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs). PTACs (www.ptacsofmichigan.org) are not-for-profit organizations funded by the Defense Logistics Agency, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and local funding partners. The mission of the PTACs of Michigan is to enhance the national defense and economic development of the state by assisting Michigan businesses in obtaining federal, state and local government contracts.

To learn more about Buy Michigan First, including the most up-to date schedule of seminars, please go to www.michigan.gov/BuyMichiganFirst or contact Rebecca Nevai, Buy Michigan First Coordinator, 517-373-8530, nevair@michigan.gov or Tammi Hart, Supplier Diversity Coordinator, 517-335-4770, hartt3@michigan.gov.



Governor Jennifer M. Granholm in March unveiled Michigan Business One Stop, a one-of-its-kind program that reforms the way companies will now do business with the state of Michigan. As the governor called for in her 2008 State of the State address, the program provides more than 650,000 businesses across Michigan with a single source for government information and services they need.

"Our one-stop-shop for business represents a significant reform in how we are serving the business community," Granholm said. "We've streamlined our operations and created a single point of entry to state government for businesses that call Michigan home or those looking to establish a presence in our state."

Michigan Business One Stop is an online service that guides users who want to start, operate or expand a business in Michigan. Business owners can apply for or renew permits and licenses, file annual reports and pay unemployment taxes, or any other fees they are subject to under state law. Information is shared across state departments with one, easy e-payment system, and the site provides businesses information about transaction

status in a new, paperless environment. In addition to the new web site, the program offers:

- a staffed consolidated call center housed in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) with expanded weekday hours designed to answer questions and help businesses obtain information and services they need;
- a Michigan business ombudsman who will lead a team at the MEDC to assess business issues and mediate solutions to help both businesses and state agencies move forward in a coordinated fashion. Gregory A. Sando, a former senior employee relations representative with Blue Care Network of Michigan and a long-time manager of workforce relations with Consumers Energy, was recently hired to serve as the ombudsman.

Michigan Business One Stop has been under development for more than a year with the help of Michigan's business community. More than 100 business owners and representatives from business associations assisted in identifying needs and ensuring that the final program addressed those needs.

Michigan Business One Stop can be found at www.michigan.gov/business.

Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparities

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation released the report, "Putting Women's Health Care Disparities on the Map: Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparities at the State Level," on June 10, 2009. The report documents the persistence of disparities on 25 indicators between white women and women of color, including rates of diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, AIDS and cancer, and access to health coverage through insurance coverage and health screenings. The data allows states to focus efforts to combat the problem.

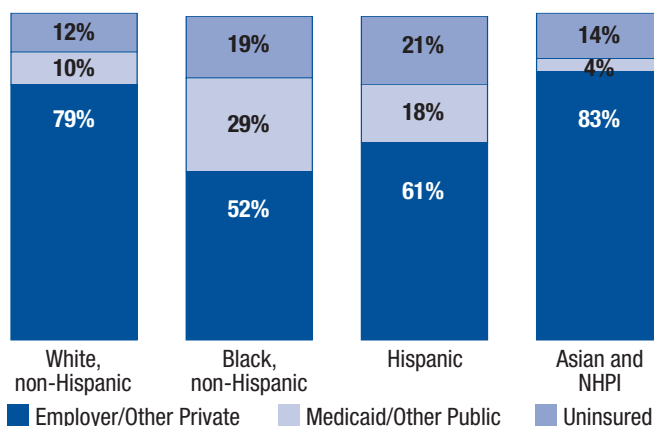
In health status scores, Michigan women compared to all US women had the same or lower percentage rates for fair or poor health status, mean number of limited activity days, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, new AIDS cases for women ages 13+ and serious psychological stress. However, all Michigan women fared worse than all US women in the mean number of days physical or mental health was "not good", obesity, current smoking, cancer mortality rate, and live births that are low birthweight. Black women had higher rates in seven of the eleven scores followed by Hispanic women. Overall, when compared to other states, Michigan women's health status scores were worse than average.

In access and utilization scores, Michigan women were better than average compared to all US women. Michigan women did better in every category: no health insurance, no personal doctor, no routine check-up in the past two years, no dental checkup in the past two years, no doctor visit in the past year due to cost, no

mammogram in the past two years for women ages 40-64, no Pap test in the past three years, and late initiation or no prenatal care. Hispanic women have a higher percentage, 21%, of no health insurance coverage, and Black women have a smaller percentage, 52%, of insurance paid by employer or private pay insurance. In four categories out of eight, Black women had higher rates followed by Hispanic women.

To see the complete study go to www.kff.org/womenshealth/index.cfm.

Health Insurance Coverage for Women Ages 18-64 by Race/Ethnicity, 2003-2005 – Michigan



Note: Data may not total 100% due to rounding. Data are not presented for all racial/ethnic groups due to limitations in sample size. Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of March 2004-2006 Current Population Surveys, U.S. Census Bureau.

MWC LEGISLATION

The Michigan Women's Commission supports the following legislation. For more information go to www.legislature.mi.gov.

SB 64 (Jacobs) expand prescription coverage to include contraceptives. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee.

SB 159 (Anderson) require schools to have policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Assigned to Senate Education Committee.

SB 167 (Scott, Martha) expand prescription coverage to include contraceptives. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee.

SB 275 (Jelinek) require schools to have policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Assigned to the Senate Education Committee.

SB 486 (Brater) – same as HB 4851 – amend Elliott-Larsen to provide equal compensation for comparable work. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

SB 487 (Brater) – same as HB 4853 – modify provision regarding wage discrimination based on sex. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

SB 488 (Whitmer) – same as HB 4854 – establish commission on pay equity. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

SB 489 (Whitmer) – same as HB 4852 – increase penalties for wage discrimination based on gender. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

SB 497 (Clarke) prohibit discrimination for bias motivated crimes. Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB 498 (Clarke) provide sentencing guidelines for bias motivated crimes. Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB 4131 (Smith, Alma) provide for second parent adoption. Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee.

HB 4192 (Warren) include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression as protected categories under the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee.

HB 4327 (Young) prohibit discrimination for pregnant workers. Passed House, 3/18/2008. Assigned to the Senate Commerce Committee.

HB 4341 (Bauer) prohibit smoking in places of employment and expand smoking prohibition in food service establishments. Assigned to the House Regulatory Committee.

HB 4377 (Gonzales) prohibit smoking in workplace and in food service establishments with certain exceptions. Passed House. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Government Operations & Reform.

HB 4580 (Byrnes) require policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Assigned to the House Education Committee.

HB 4835 (Stanley) amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to add penalties for violating bias-motivated crimes.

Passed House 5/20/09 and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB 4836 (Robert Jones) amend the Michigan Penal Code to remove ethnic intimidation and include bias-motivated crimes. Passed House 5/20/09 and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB 4851 (Bauer) amend Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination for failing to provide equal compensation for comparable work. Assigned to the House Labor Committee.

HB 4852 (Byrnes) – same as SB 489 – amend the penal code- crime if wage discrimination is based on sex. Assigned to the House Labor Committee.

HB 4853 (Roberts) – same as SB 487 – amend the penal code to provide penalties for wage discrimination based on gender increase under certain circumstances. Assigned to the House Labor Committee.

HB 4854 (Slavens) – same as SB 488 – amend Elliott-Larsen to establish a commission on pay equity. Assigned to the House Labor Committee.

HB 5021 (Warren) require dating violence training, policy, and education in middle schools and high schools. Assigned to the House Education Committee.

HR 84 (Kennedy) commemorate April 28 as Equal Pay Day. Passed the House on April 28, 2009, 108 yeas and 1 nay and 1 absent.

The Michigan Women's Commission also supports the prevention package, see page one.

Financial Help for Adults Age 60 and Older

Times are tough and many older adults and caregivers in Michigan are struggling to make ends meet. Help is available through a new Benefits Enrollment Center. Adults age 60 and older and people with disabilities can call the Legal Hotline for Michigan Seniors and get help over the telephone to find out if there are any programs and services that they can apply for that will ease their financial situation.

It's easy to get a benefits screening! Call the Legal Hotline at (800) 347-5297 to speak with a benefits counselor, who will screen for a variety of programs, including: tax credit assistance, food assistance, help paying medical premiums and prescription drugs, utility payment programs, and home improvement services. Once callers have been screened, they can receive help with the benefits application process.

Individuals, community service groups, attorneys, social workers and others that assist older adults and persons with disabilities can choose to do the screening themselves by going online to www.elderlawofmi.org/legalhotline. Call us if you have questions on how to use the tool at 800-347-5297.

Michigan Women's Commission
110 West Michigan, Suite 800
Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 373-2884 fax: (517) 335-1649
www.michigan.gov/mdcr

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lansing, Michigan
Permit No. 1200

CALENDAR

August 26 – Women's Equality Day - commemorating the passage of the 19th amendment for the right to vote. See <http://www.nwhp.org>. AAUW, Coalition for Equal Rights Studies, MI ERAmerica and others are hosting a luncheon on August 22 in Livonia, MI. Email MichERAmerica@cs.com; or phone 248-355-5233.

September 9, 10:00 a.m. – Michigan Women's Commission Meeting, 110 W. Michigan Ave., 8th floor, Lansing MI
Legislative Committee meeting 10 a.m., Commission meeting noon. Call 517-373-2884 for more information.

October – National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (www.ncadv.org)

October – National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (www.cancer.org)

October 20 – World Osteoporosis Day (<http://www.iofbonehealth.org>)

October 21, 5:00 p.m. – 26th Annual Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI, 5:00 p.m. reception; 6:00 p.m. dinner; 7:00 p.m. program. Call 517-484-1880 for more information.

A more complete calendar is available at www.michigan.gov/mdcr.

Mailing List Update

If your name or address needs to be changed on our newsletter mailing label, or if you receive duplicates, please mail or fax (517-335-1649) the correct information (along with your current label) to the address or fax number listed. You can also email us at MDCR-WomensComm@michigan.gov.